## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 //098 W

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P 090031Z AUG 77 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4116
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, MX

SUBJECT: NOTIFICATIONS OF SERVICES RESTRAINTS IN THE MTN

**REF: STATE 180217** 

1. RE MEXICAN RESTRAINTS ON SERVICES CATALOGED IN PARA 4 REFTEL:

A. (RADIO COMMERCIALS): INFO CONTAINED REFTEL ACCURATE.
B. (FIRE INSURANCE): IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE
INSURANCE LAW REQUIRES THAT 50 PERCENT OF THE REINSURED PORTION OF A FIRE INSURANCE POLICY BE PLACED
LOCALLY AND THE BALANCE MAY BE PLACED ABROAD. THUS,
IF A COMPANY WRITING THE ORIGINAL POLICY KEEPS 10
PERCENT OF THE POLICY, 45 PERCENT MUST BE REINSURED
LOCALLY. THE REASON FOR THIS IS THAT FIRE INSURANCE IS
GENERALLY THE MOST PROFITABLE LINE OF INSURANCE. THERE
ARE NO LIMITATIONS ON THE PLACING OF REINSURANCE FOR
OTHER LINES

C. (IMPORT INSURANCE): IMPORTS MUST BE INSURED ONCE THE TILE PASSES TO THE IMPORTER. THUS, IF AN IMPORT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IS SHIPPED FROM NEW YORK TO LAREDO F.O.B., U.S. INSURANCE CAN BE USED FOR THE U.S. PORTION OF TRANSPORTATION. ALSO, IF GOODS ARE SHIPPED ON CONSIGNMENT FOREIGN INSURANCE CAN BE USED FOR THE FULL TRANSPORTATION.

2. RE OTHER GOM RESTRAINTS ON SERVICES, "ENGINEERS OVER-

SEAS HANDBOOD 1976", PUBLISHED BY USDOC, PROVIDES INFORMATION ON GOM LIMITATIONS ON US ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES. IN ADDITION, MEXICAN LAW SPECIFIES THAT GOVERNMENT CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS MAY ONLY BE AWARDED TO MEXICAN FIRMS (SEE MEXICO A-126, JUNE 15, 1977).

- 3. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THESE MEXICAN RESTRAINTS ON SERVICES FAVOR NATIONAL OVER FOREIGN FIRMS AND IMPACT ON THE SERVICES ACCOUNT. HOWEVER, DESPITE EXISTENCE OF THESE RESTRAINTS, EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED FEW, IF ANY, COMPLAINTS FROM US FIRMS CONCERNING THEM. IN AREA OF ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES, SOME US FIRMS HAVE ENTERED INTO JOINT VENTURES WITH MEXICAN FIRMS IN ORDER TO DO BUSINESS IN MEXICO. ALSO, WHERE US ENGINEERING FIRM IS KNOWN TO POSSES EXCEPTIONAL TALENTS IN CRUCIAL AREAS (E.G., NUCLEAR ENERGY), GOM HAS BEEN KNOWN TO CONTRACT DIRECTLY WITH US FIRM FOR SERVICES.
- 4. ABOVE RESTRICTIONS WERE ALREADY KNOWN TO EMBASSY. NO IN-DEPTH RESEARCH WAS POSSIBLE IN FOUR WORK DAYS AVAILABLE SINCE RECEIPT REFTEL; HENCE THERE IS NO ASSURANCE ABOVE LISTING IS COMPREHENSIVE.
- 5. GOM LIKELY TO RESIST STRONGLY ANY US REQUESTS OR PRESSURES TO ELIMINATE OR REDUCE RESTRAINTS ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SERVICES TO THE DETRIMENT OF LOC LOCAL INDUSTRIES.
AS DEPT AWARE, MEXICO IS PARTICIPATING IN MTN AS A
NON-GATT COUNTRY, WITH DECISION AS TO POSSIBLE ADHERENCE
TO GATT TO BE MADE WHEN ALL IS FINISHED. INTRODUCTION OF
THIS TOPIC MAY BE CONSIDERED ADVERSE FACTOR BY MEXICO IN
ITS DECISION. LUCEY.

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## Message Attributes

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TAGS: ETRD, MX, GATT, MTN

To: STATE Type: TE

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